

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying an electronic equipment input state on a menu screen, the method comprising the steps of:

displaying a first ring on a picture screen and a plurality of icons at predetermined intervals on the first ring;

rotating each displayed icon on the first ring while maintaining the order of arrangement;

highlighting an icon corresponding to an operation, the highlighted icon surrounded by a second ring that is of a smaller diameter than the first ring, wherein the first ring and the second ring are different levels of a hierarchical menu;

automatically displaying the highlighted icon larger than the other icons positioned on the first ring;

selecting the highlighted icon;

automatically centering the selected icon on the picture screen; ~~and removing the remaining plurality of icons on the first ring from the picture screen; and~~

~~performing the operation corresponding to the selected icon.~~

enlarging and adding detail to the second ring upon centering the selected icon.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~displaying a second ring of smaller diameter than the first ring surrounding a displayed position of the highlighted icon, when it is determined that a plurality of secondary operations corresponding to the operation exists;~~

~~enlarging the second ring when the highlighted icon is selected; and~~

displaying icons corresponding to respective input items at predetermined intervals on the second ring, the input items corresponding to a plurality of secondary operations of the operation.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein one of the icons displayed on the first ring corresponds to the operation of returning to a display including a previous menu layer.

5. (Currently Amended) A display device comprising:

- a display;
- input means for highlighting an icon on the display, the icon corresponding to an operation;
- means for selecting the highlighted icon;
- display control means for causing the display to display:
 - a menu screen having a first ring;
 - a plurality of icons at predetermined intervals on the first ring;

a rotation of each displayed icon on the first ring while maintaining the order of arrangement;

the highlighted icon larger than the other remaining plurality of icons on the first ring; and

a second ring, of smaller diameter than the first ring, surrounding the highlighted icon, wherein the first ring and the second ring are different levels of a hierarchical menu;

the selected icon at the center of the display ~~with the remaining plurality of icons on the first ring removed from the display;~~ and

the second ring enlarged.

~~means for performing the operation corresponding to the selected icon.~~

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) A display device according to claim 5, wherein the display control means further comprises means for causing the display to display: ~~a second ring of smaller diameter than the first ring surrounding the highlighted icon, when it is determined that a plurality of secondary operations exists for the operation; the second ring enlarged; and icons corresponding to respective input items at predetermined intervals on the second ring,~~ the input items corresponding to a plurality of secondary operations of the operation.

8. (Previously Presented) A display device according to claim 5, wherein

the display control means further comprises means for causing an icon performing an operation of returning to a display including a previous menu layer to be displayed as one of the icons on the first ring.

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of highlighting the first ring when performing selections on the first ring.

10. (Previously Presented) A display device according to claim 5, wherein the display control means causes the display to display the first ring highlighted when performing selections on the first ring.

11. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the displayed icons of the first ring that are closer to the highlighted icon are larger than the displayed icons of the first ring that are further from the highlighted icon.

12. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of removing the remaining plurality of icons on the first ring from the picture screen.

13. (New) A display device according to claim 5, wherein the displayed icons of the first ring that are closer to the highlighted icon are larger than the displayed icons of the first ring that are further from the highlighted icon.

14. (New) A display device according to claim 5, wherein the display control means causes the display to remove the remaining plurality of icons on the first ring from the display.